

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 156

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the business students of Tennessee Technological University on winning the 2010 Investment Challenge, sponsored by the Tennessee Valley Authority.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this body should honor those institutions of higher education and their students, who through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have won national acclaim and brought honorable recognition to our state; and

WHEREAS, such an exemplary institution is Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, whose business students outperformed Wall Street and other university groups to win the Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) 2010 Investment Challenge; and

WHEREAS, the Investment Challenge began in 1998 when TVA allocated \$1.9 million from its Nuclear Decommissioning Fund to initiate the program; the competition involves real money that TVA will one day use to decommission nuclear plants, thereby making the students an important component of TVA's financial success; and

WHEREAS, by posting a 34.67 percent return, the TTU students beat the S&P 500 return by more than 19 percentage points, plus they topped the average return for competitors by almost 17 percentage points. The best performing stocks for TTU scholars included Netflix, Apple, Amazon, and Cree; and

WHEREAS, making use of all the tools at their disposal, the Tennessee Tech team enjoyed the use of the new \$150,000 Heidtke Trading Room at the College of Business, which offers students access to market data through a state-of-the-art stock ticker and displays

worldwide stock exchanges, commodities, currencies, individual funds and market newsfeeds from a wall of high definition television screens; and

WHEREAS, proudly representing Tennessee Technological University, the members of this triumphant team are Justin Hill, Alex Cameron, Blake Rice, Christina Eichler, Ben Holt, and Professor Deryl Martin; and

WHEREAS, no strangers to awards or accolades, Tennessee Technological students have won the Investment Challenge four times, including in 1998, 1999, 2007, and 2010, and placed second on two other occasions. Additionally, this year's victory earns the College of Business a cash prize of an estimated \$12,200; and

WHEREAS, the dedication to academic excellence demonstrated by all the fine individuals affiliated with the College of Business at Tennessee Tech is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the faculty and members of the Tennessee Technological University student investment team upon their victory in the 2010 Investment Challenge, and extend to them our best wishes for continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.